

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6427

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2689

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT EG UR LY IZ

SUBJ: QUDDUS CHIDES SOVIET UNION AND IDENTIFIES

LIBYA AND IRAQ AS MOST HOSTILE ARABS TO EGYPT

1. APRIL 27 AKHBAR AL-YAWM CARRIES ARTICLE BY CHAIRMAN QUDDUS DEALING WITH USSR, IRAQ AND LIBYA. HE FIRST TAKES SOVIETS TO TASK FOR CRITICIZING EGYPTIAN RECEPTIVITY TO U.S., STATING THAT SOVIETS HAVE OPENED THEIR DOORS TO U.S. MORE THAN ANY ARAB COUNTRY. HE CALLS SOVIET APPREHENSION ABOUT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ACTIVITIES IN ME MISPLACED AND STATES THAT SOVIETS SHOULD NOT "PRESUME" TO BE THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF ARABS IN ME.

2. IRAQ: QUDDUS STATES THAT IRAQ AND LIBYA ARE ONLY TWO ARAB STATES WHICH HAVE ADOPTED HOSTILE STAND TOWARD EGYPT. BOTH, HE SAYS, NOW USE BEIRUT AS BASE OF OPERATIONS WHILE FOCUSING ACTIVITIES ON DAMASCUS. QUDDUS RECALLS THAT IN YEARS PAST, IRAQ ATTEMPTED TO IMPOSE ITSELF ON OTHERS, AND STATES THAT BOTH BRITISH AND SOVIETS, IN TURN, PLAYED

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BAGHDAD AGAINST CAIRO. HE HOPES THIS WILL CHANGE, BUT

IRAQIS MUST REALIZE THAT THEY CAN DEAL WITH SOVIETS WITHOUT ANTAGONIZING OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES.

3. LIBYA: QUDDUS STATES THAT LIBYAN POLITICS ARE DERIVATIVE OF NASSERISM. NASSER CREATED MAJOR ARMY AS INSTRUMENT OF POWER AND LIBYANS, REMEMBERING THIS, HAVE THEREFORE CONTINUED TO INSIST THAT IN ANY UNITY PLAN WITH EGYPT THEY BE PLACED IN COMMAND OF THE MILITARY. HE ADDS THAT LIBYANS HAVE APPROACHED UNITY FROM TOTALLY INCORRECT POSITION, BELIEVING IN MERGER OF LEADERSHIPS RATHER THAN IN ESTABLISHING MUTUALITY OF INTERESTS FIRST.

4. SECRET ORGANIZATIONS: STILL ON SUBJECT OF LIBYA, QUDDUS STATES THAT NASSER ESTABLISHED SECRET ORGANIZATIONS IN ALMOST EVERY ARAB COUNTRY "IN ORDER TO DEFEND THE REVOLUTION;" ONE OF THESE INITIATED 1958 CRISIS IN LEBANON. QUDDUS NOTES THAT SECRET ORGANIZATION LINKED WITH EGYPT ONCE EXISTED INSIDE LIBYA, BUT THIS WAS DESTROYED BEFORE 1967. HE THEN STATES THAT LIBYANS HAVE BEGUN TO USE THEIR OIL MONEY TO FORM SECRET ORGANIZATIONS IN ARAB AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES. WHAT SHOULD EGYPT DO? "SHOULD WE REVERT TO METHODS OF DEFENDING THE REVOLUTION AND CREATE SECRET ORGANIZATIONS IN LIBYA? NO, NEVER WILL THIS HAPPEN."

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT QUDDUS' ARTICLE HAS BEEN WRITTEN AT SADAT'S INSTANCE. LAST PART, REFERRING TO POSSIBILITY OF EGYPTIAN COUNTERACTION AGAINST LIBYA THROUGH A SECRET ORGANIZATION, DESPITE QUDDUS' FLAT DENIAL, SHOULD BE READ AS DIRECT WARNING TO QADHAAFI. EILTS

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